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"UD History Professor's Collection Illuminates Mourning Rituals of Victorian Middle Class; UD Music Professor Marches to an Unusual Beat, Collects Antique Sheet Music and Curious Folk Instruments" (1988). *News Releases*. 5068.
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UD HISTORY PROFESSOR'S COLLECTION ILLUMINATES MOURNING RITUALS OF VICTORIAN MIDDLE CLASS

For Alice Vines, what began as a hobby of collecting antique jewelry has turned into an extensive collection of Victorian "mourning jewelry"--a dazzling display larger than many museums and possibly the largest private collection in the world.

An Oakwood resident and associate professor of history at UD, Vines first became intrigued with collecting antique jewelry in 1972 during one of her annual summer visits to England. As she visited London jewelers, she noticed a curious type of jewelry decorated elaborately with locks of hair and often inscribed with someone's name and date of death. Known as mourning jewelry, these ornate pieces were worn by middle-class Victorian women as part of an English death ritual.

Vines, who specializes in British history, was immediately hooked. To her, the jewelry provides "a rather intimate touch" of a period in history that most people only read about in books.

For media interviews, contact Alice Vines at (513) 229-3047.

UD MUSIC PROFESSOR MARCHES TO AN UNUSUAL BEAT, COLLECTS ANTIQUE SHEET MUSIC AND CURIOUS FOLK INSTRUMENTS

Need sheet music for an early Stephen Foster ballad? Ever wonder what an African tribal drum sounds like?

George Zimmerman, who leads popular community sing-alongs on UD's campus twice a year, collects early American sheet music and curious-looking (and sounding) folk instruments. The Washington Twp. resident estimates that he owns more than 1,000 pieces of sheet music dating back to 1850. His collection includes popular minstrel songs and ragtime tunes.

Zimmerman, a lecturer in UD's music department for the past 10 years, often finds an attentive audience at the University's Center for Young Learners, where the children are fascinated by the several dozen lutes, horns and pipes Zimmerman has collected from Africa, the Middle East and other parts of the globe.

"I'm a packrat," explains Zimmerman, half-apologetically. "But everything I've collected over the years has been relatively useful in my work."

For media interviews, contact George Zimmerman at (513) 229-3917.

FOR ASSISTANCE IN SCHEDULING INTERVIEWS, CONTACT EITHER TERI RIZVI OR PAM HUBER AT (513) 229-3241.



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